

specific plan in the construction of a house, one never sees two houses exactly alike. But the same general plan is used in the construction of all of them. Consequently all of them have the same general appearance and arrangement.

These five quiet, secluded little villages with a population varying from 200 to 300 each were destined to be the home of the 321st for five and one-half months. We should thank our lucky stars that we did not know the duration of our stay upon our arrival. The population of these villages was tripled in one night. The next morning in each village the natives saw 600 to 800 American soldiers crawling out of stables, barn lofts and rooms in every house in the village. These lines from Sergeant Major Herty cleverly describe the scene in our billets at day-break:

DAYBREAK IN A BILLET.

It is a frosty morning, cold and damp;

No sound disturbs the calm tranquility.

The light that lives is but an ancient lamp,

That guides the oxen ere they step on thee—

But hark! the mighty bugler is awake,

And does with his infernal weapon make

A crashing sound like thunder.

Doughboy, if thou remainest unmoved by such a noise,
Tomorrow's sun will find thee out-of-luck;

So, up! thou brave, and with thy guns and toys
Go forth and start to earn another buck.

—REG. SERGT. MAJ. HOWARD A. HERTY, in "Stars and Stripes."